

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in telephone interviews with Mr. Erich C. Tzou, Registration No. 56,927 on May 28 and June 18, 2008.
3. The claims have been amended as follow:
 1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, comprising:

preventing a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon a first resource plan, ~~in which~~ wherein the first resource plan comprises a configurable limit on a first maximum number of active sessions for the first group on the computer system, when the first configurable limit is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the first configurable limit is configured to limit the number of newly active session for the first group to zero, wherein no new sessions in the first group are allowed to become active, and all currently active sessions in the first group are allowed to continue; and

allowing ~~a zero~~ one or more second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system based upon a second resource plan for the second group,

wherein the first resource plan and the second resource plan are adapted in order to allow one or more third resource consumers of a third group to start a new activity by respectively preventing the first resource consumer from starting a new activity and by allowing zero or more second resource consumer to continue an already-running activity; and

replacing the first resource plan or the second resource plan with a third resource plan upon completion of operation of the third group.

~~storing the first resource plan or the second resource plan in a tangible medium for use by the computer system.~~

2-3. (Canceled).

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the prevented activity is queued.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[5]], wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a fourth group, the fourth group comprising zero or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being

adapted to define a second number of active sessions the fourth group is allowed to have running in the computer system, further comprising:

configuring the second configurable value to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the fourth group to be run while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1[[5]], wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for quiescing a computer system, the computer system operating according to a first resource plan, comprising:

replacing the first resource plan with a second resource plan, wherein the second resource plan ~~comprising~~ identifying a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group,

the second resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting new activity on the computer system in order to allow the second resource consumer group to start and complete a new activity on the computer system, ~~wherein~~

the second resource plan ~~comprises an active session~~ comprising a configurable limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions for the first group on the computer system, and

when the configurable limit is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the configurable limit is configured to limit the number of newly active session for the first group to zero, wherein

no new sessions in the first group are allowed to become active, and
all currently active sessions in the first group are allowed to continue.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a medium useable by a processor, the medium ~~comprising~~ storing thereon a sequence of instructions which, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to execute a method for quiescing resource consumer activity in a computer system, the method comprising:

preventing a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon a first resource plan, ~~in which~~ wherein

the first resource plan comprises a configurable limit on a first maximum number of active sessions for the first group on the computer system,

when the first configurable limit is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the first configurable limit is configured to limit the number of newly active session for the first group to zero, wherein

no new sessions in the first group are allowed to become active, and

all currently active sessions in the first group are allowed to continue; and

allowing ~~[[zero]]~~one or more second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system based upon a second resource plan for the second group,

wherein the first resource plan and the second resource plan are adapted in order to allow one or more third resource consumer of a third group to start a new activity by respectively preventing the first resource consumer from starting a new activity and by allowing zero or more second resource consumer to continue an already-running activity; and

replacing the first resource plan or the second resource plan with a third resource plan upon completion of operation of the third group.

~~storing the first resource plan or the second resource plan in a tangible medium for use by the computer system.~~

10-11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the prevented activity is queued.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[13]] 9, wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a second group, the second group comprising one or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being adapted to define a second number of active sessions the second group is allowed to have running in the computer system, further comprising:

configuring the second configurable value to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the second group to be run while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim [[13]] 9, wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that includes a medium useable by a processor, the medium ~~comprising~~ storing thereon a sequence of instructions which, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to execute a method for quiescing a computer system, the computer system operating according to a first resource plan, the method comprising:

replacing the first resource plan with a second resource plan, wherein the second resource plan ~~comprising~~ identifying a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group, the second resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting new activity on the computer system in order to allow the second resource consumer group to start new activity on the computer system, ~~wherein~~

the second resource plan ~~comprises an active session~~ comprising a
configurable limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions for
the first group on the computer system, and

when the configurable limit is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the
configurable limit is configured to limit the number of newly active
session for the first group to zero, wherein

no new sessions in the first group are allowed to become active, and

all currently active sessions in the first group are allowed to continue.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for quiescing a user activity in a computer system, comprising:

a processor adapted to implement a first resource plan and a second resource plan;

a processor adapted to prevent a first resource consumer of a first group from starting a new activity on the computer system based upon the first resource plan, ~~in which~~ wherein

the first resource plan comprises a configurable limit on a first maximum number of active sessions for the first group on the computer system,

when the first configurable limit is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the first configurable limit is configured to limit the number of newly active session for the first group to zero, wherein

no new sessions in the first group are allowed to become active, and

all currently active sessions in the first group are allowed to continue;

means for allowing ~~[[zero]]~~one or more second resource consumer of a second group to continue an already-running activity on the computer system based upon the second resource plan for the second group,

wherein the first resource plan and the second resource plan are adapted in order to allow one or more third resource consumer of a third group to start a new activity by respectively preventing the first resource consumer from starting a new activity and by allowing zero or more second resource consumer to continue an already-running activity; and

means for replacing the first resource plan or the second resource plan with a third resource plan upon completion of operation of the third group.

~~storing the first resource plan or the second resource plan in a tangible medium for use by the computer system.~~

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising a means for scheduling which prevents the first group of resource consumers from starting new activity while allowing the second group of resource consumers to start new activity.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the new activity prevented from starting of the first resource consumer is queued.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24[[21]], wherein the computer system further comprises a second configurable value associated with a second resource consumer group, the second resource consumer group comprising one or more resource consumers, the second configurable value being adapted to define a second number of active sessions that the second resource consumer group is allowed to have running in the computer system, wherein the second configurable value is configured to a value adapted to allow one or more active sessions from the second resource consumer group to be run, while the first configurable value is set to the quiescence value.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24[[21]], wherein sessions prevented from becoming active are queued.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for quiescing a computer system the computer system operating according to a first resource plan, comprising:

means for ~~implementing~~ replacing the first resource with a second resource plan, wherein

the second resource plan identifying a first resource consumer group and a second resource consumer group,

the second resource plan being adapted to prevent the first resource consumer group from starting new activity on the computer system in order to allow the second resource consumer group to start and complete a new activity on the computer system,

the second resource plan comprising a configurable limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions for the first group on the computer system, and

when the configurable limit being adapted is configured to a quiescence value of zero, the configurable limit being configured to limit the number of newly active session for the first resource consumer group to zero, wherein

~~prevent no new sessions in the first resource consumer group are allowed to become active from starting a new activity on the computer system in order to allow the second resource consumer group to start a new activity on the computer system~~, and

all currently active sessions in the first resource consumer group are allowed to continue.

~~wherein the second resource plan comprises an active session limit that represents a limit on a number of active sessions; and~~

~~a processor adapted to allocate the resource to the first resource consumer group and the second resource consumer group, as directed by the resource plan.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, in which the configurable limit on the maximum number of active sessions is zero.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 9, in which the configurable limit on the maximum number of active sessions is zero.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, in which the configurable limit on the maximum number of active sessions is zero.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the number of active sessions is limited not to exceed the configurable limit.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the ~~active session~~ configurable limit.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the number of active sessions is limited not to exceed the configurable limit.

34. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the ~~active session~~ configurable limit.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the number of active sessions of the first resource consumer group is limited not to exceed the ~~active session~~ configurable limit.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, in which the first resource plan comprises a resource sub-plan for allocating the system resource within the first group.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, in which the first resource plan comprises no limit on a maximum number of active sessions for the second group.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, in which the first resource plan allocates the system resource according to a respective weight associated with at least one of the first group and the second group.

40. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

deactivating and replacing the first resource plan or the second resource plan with
[[a]] the third resource plan upon completion of operation of the third group.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, in which the third group comprises a process for maintaining the computer system.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qing-Yuan Wu whose telephone number is (571)272-3776. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-6:00pm Monday-Thursday and alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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